

# Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)  
Original Novel · Chugong  
Story · h-goon

34

WHOEVER FIGHTS MONSTERS...

...SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT IN  
THE PROCESS HE DOES NOT  
BECOME A MONSTER.

IF YOU GAZE LONG ENOUGH  
INTO AN ABYSS,

THE ABYSS...



...WILL GAZE BACK INTO YOU.

-FRIEDRICH  
NIETZSCHE

HUNTERS  
HAVE WITNESSED  
COUNTLESS DEATHS,  
AND HAVE TAKEN  
MANY LIVES.

BECAUSE  
WE STRADDLE THE  
LINE BETWEEN LIFE AND  
DEATH, WE NOT ONLY FIGHT  
AGAINST MAGIC BEASTS,  
BUT OTHER HUMANS  
AS WELL.

WE HAVE  
BECOME EXTRAORDINARY  
"KILLING MACHINES."

YOU'RE NO  
DIFFERENT.

WE FACE  
DEATH ON THE  
DAILY, SO DON'T TELL  
ME YOU'RE LUMPING US  
HUNTERS TOGETHER  
WITH ORDINARY  
HUMANS.



ANYWAY...





...I'VE LOST,  
SO I'LL DIE.

IT'S THE  
NATURAL ORDER  
OF THINGS.



...LET ME JUST  
ASK YOU ONE  
LAST THING.

WHAT'S  
YOUR DEAL?

AN ASSASSIN  
CLASS HUNTER  
WITH HEALING  
ABILITIES...

AND TO TOP  
IT OFF, YOU HAVE THE  
ABILITY TO DEBUFF YOUR  
OPPONENTS. I'VE NEVER  
HEARD OF SUCH  
A THING.



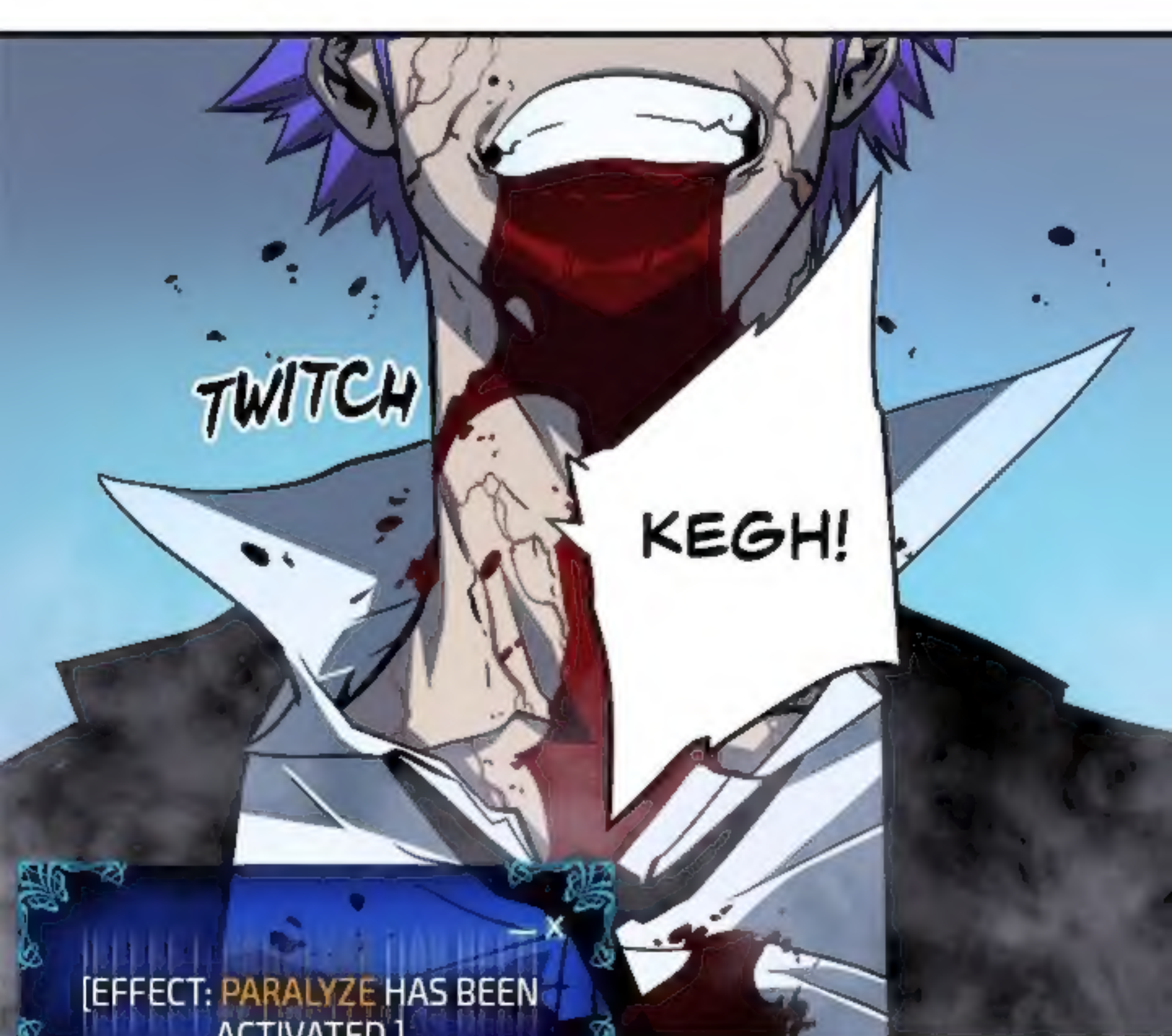


WELL, I'D  
LIKE TO KNOW THE  
ANSWER TO THAT,  
TOO.



A GUY LIKE  
ME WHO TALKS  
TOO MUCH MAY SEEM  
PATHETIC TO YOU,  
BUT...

SOMEONE WITH TOO  
MANY SECRETS ISN'T  
ALL THAT GREAT  
EITHER.



[EFFECT: **PARALYZE** HAS BEEN  
ACTIVATED.]

[EFFECT: **BLEED** HAS BEEN  
ACTIVATED.]



NOW THAT YOU'VE  
KILLED ME, YOU  
WON'T BE ABLE TO  
HIDE YOUR TRUE  
RANK.

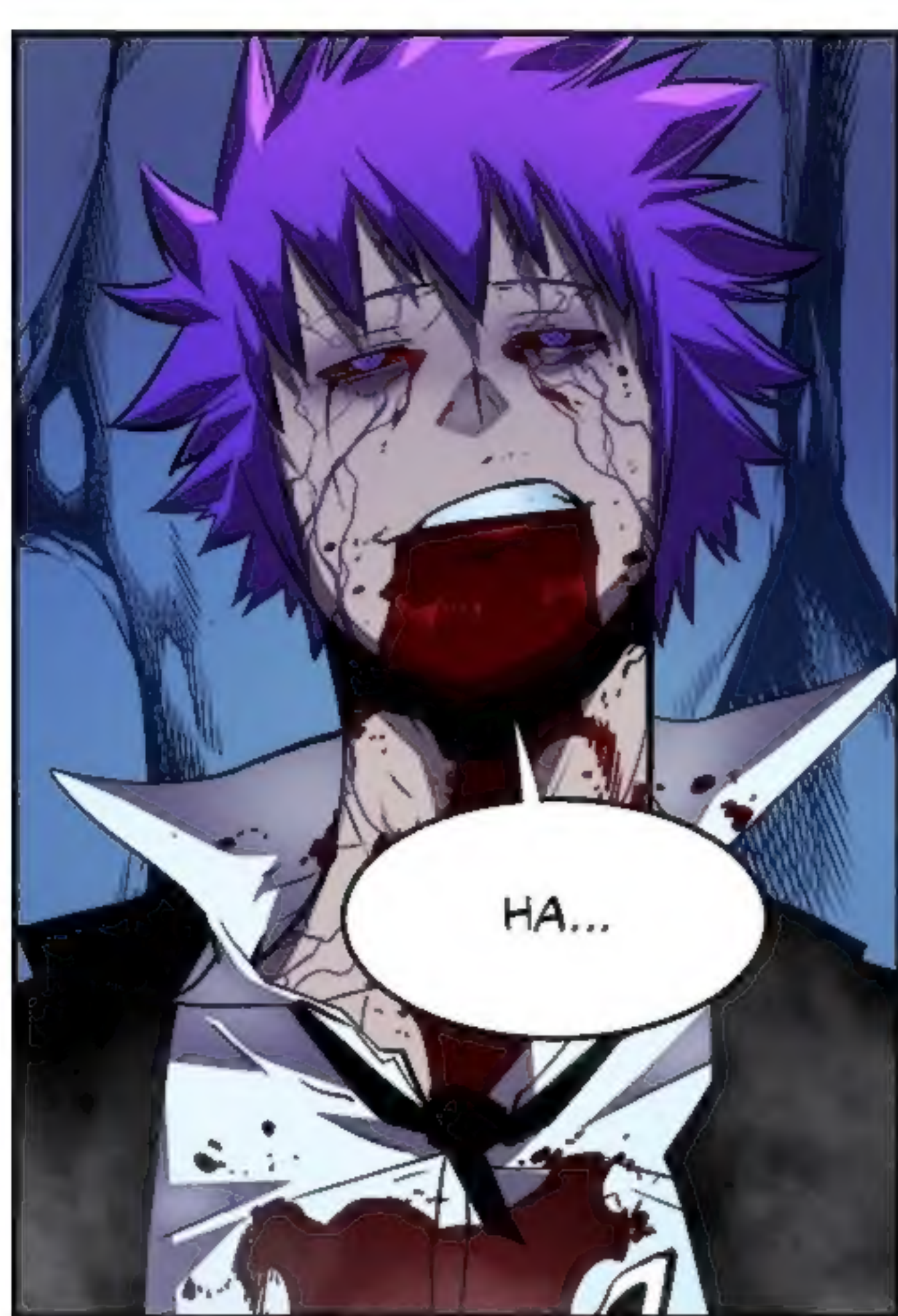


...



LET'S SAY I'M  
A HUNTER THAT  
IMPROVES WITH  
EVERY BATTLE.

HOW MUCH  
STRONGER DO YOU  
THINK I'LL GET?

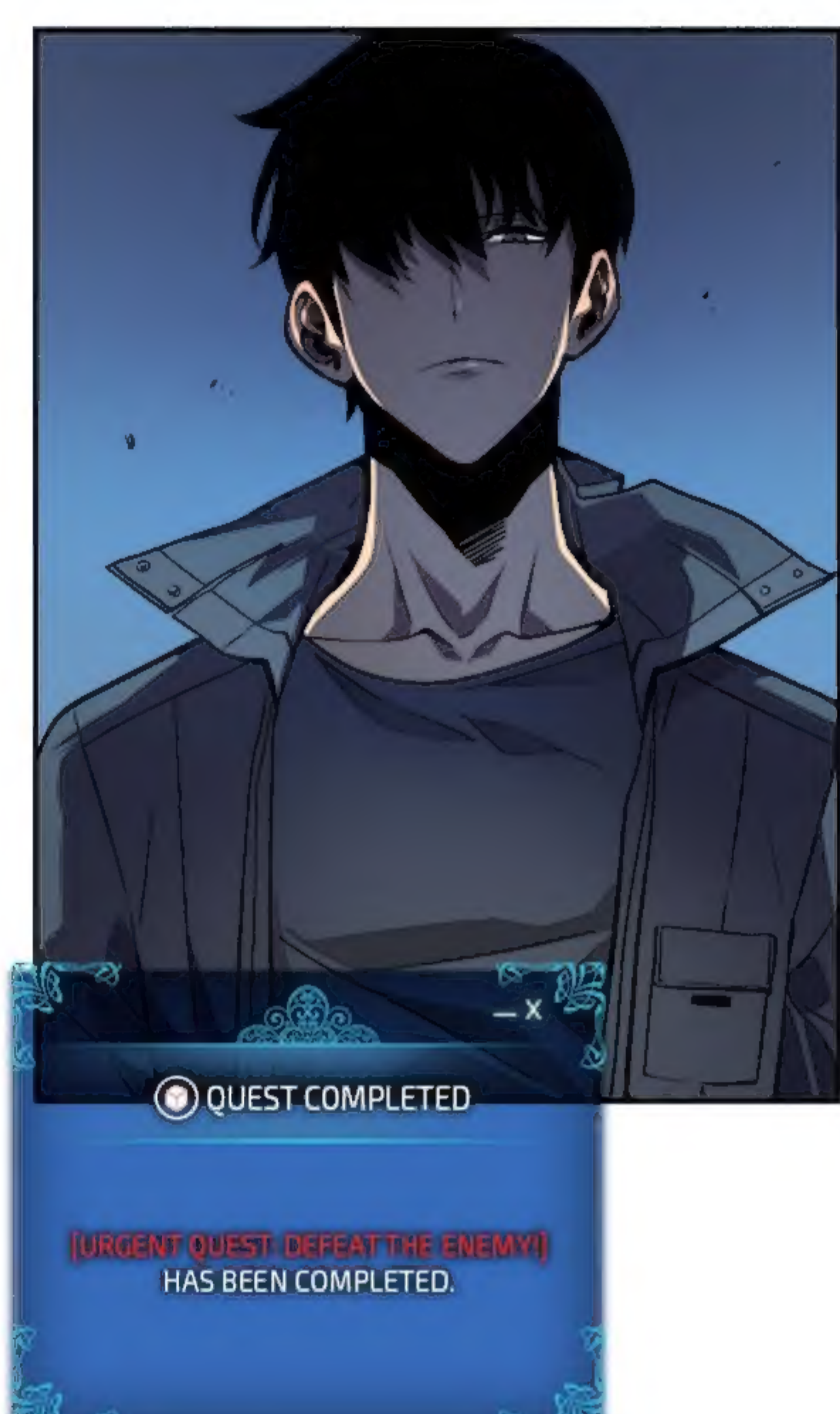


HA...



YOUR  
SHADOW...

...HAS  
BECOME ONE WITH  
DARKNESS.



BUT FOR SOME REASON...




...I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING  
IS DESTROYED INSIDE OF  
ME EVERYTIME I GET  
STRONGER.



JINWOO...

THANK YOU.

A close-up of a man with long, reddish-brown hair tied back, wearing a brown jacket with a black collar. He has a slight, weary smile.

THANKS,  
SUNG.

IF IT WEREN'T  
FOR YOU, WE'D  
BOTH BE DEAD  
BY NOW.


A wide shot of a cave interior. The floor is dark and rocky. In the background, a man in an orange shirt is lying face down. In the foreground, three people are standing: a man in a brown jacket (Sung), a woman with long red hair, and a person in a dark hooded cloak.

NOW,  
WHAT SHOULD WE  
DO ABOUT THIS  
MESS...

WOULDN'T IT BE  
BEST TO LEAVE THIS  
DUNGEON AND REPORT  
EVERYTHING TO THE  
ASSOCIATION?

A close-up of Sung looking up at a large, dark, shadowy figure that looms over him. Sung has a surprised or concerned expression.

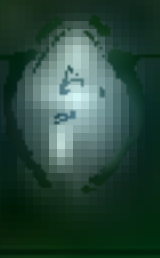
WE  
NEED TO CLOSE  
THE DUNGEON  
FIRST.

A close-up of Sung looking down with a serious, determined expression.

SUNG, ARE  
YOU PLANNING ON  
FIGHTING THE BOSS  
ON YOUR OWN...?!

...WELL, NOW THAT  
I'VE SEEN YOUR  
SKILLS, I WON'T  
STOP YOU.







RUNESTONE: CAMOUFLAGE

TYPE: RUNE STONE


BREAKING THIS RUNE STONE WILL GRANT YOU A SKILL




I CAN OBTAIN  
THE SKILL THAT GUY  
WAS USING?



SUNG, JOOHEE  
AND I WILL HEAD  
OUT FIRST AND  
CONTACT THE  
ASSOCIATION.



WE'LL BE WAITING  
FOR YOU OUTSIDE,  
PLEASE BE  
QUICK.



I WON'T  
TAKE LONG.



ARE YOU  
NOT ABLE TO  
TALK?

MAN, THAT WAS  
BRUTAL OF KANG  
TAESHIK.

HE WAS  
SHREWD ENOUGH TO  
CUT YOUR VOCAL  
CHORDS.

AFTER MAKING YOU  
UNABLE TO SCREAM,  
HE PROBABLY WANTED  
TO KILL YOU IN THE  
MOST PAINFUL WAY  
POSSIBLE.

AT THIS RATE,  
YOU'LL DIE OF  
BLOOD LOSS.

YOU COULD  
SURVIVE IF I GET  
JOOHEE TO HEAL  
YOU.

I'M... BEING  
SPARED.

WAIT, THIS  
WAY IS...

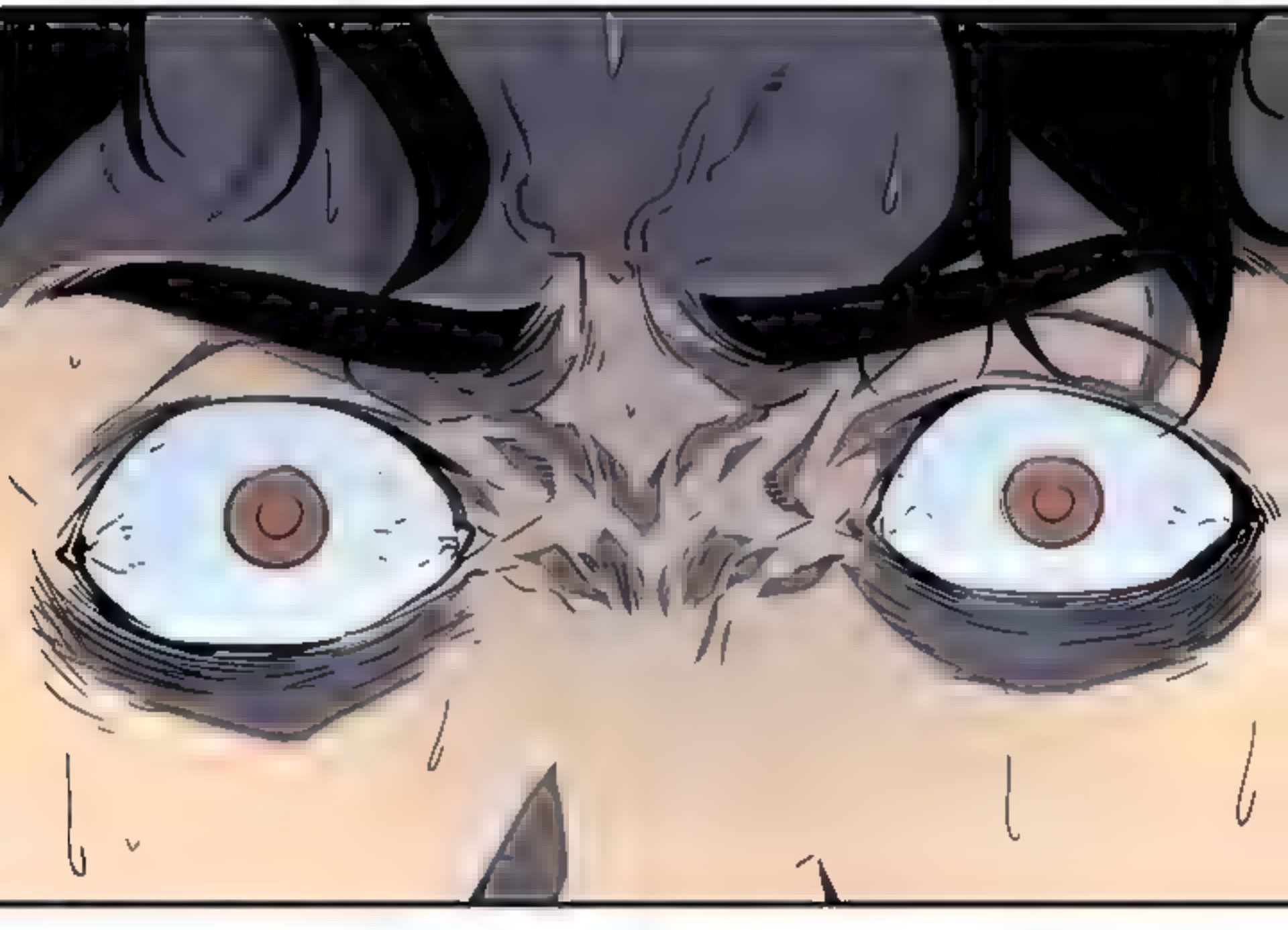
STAY  
STILL.

DRAG

DRAG

THIS  
ISN'T THE WAY

OUT!





**YOU'RE  
EVEN MORE OF  
A SCUMBAG  
THAN KANG  
TAESHIK.**

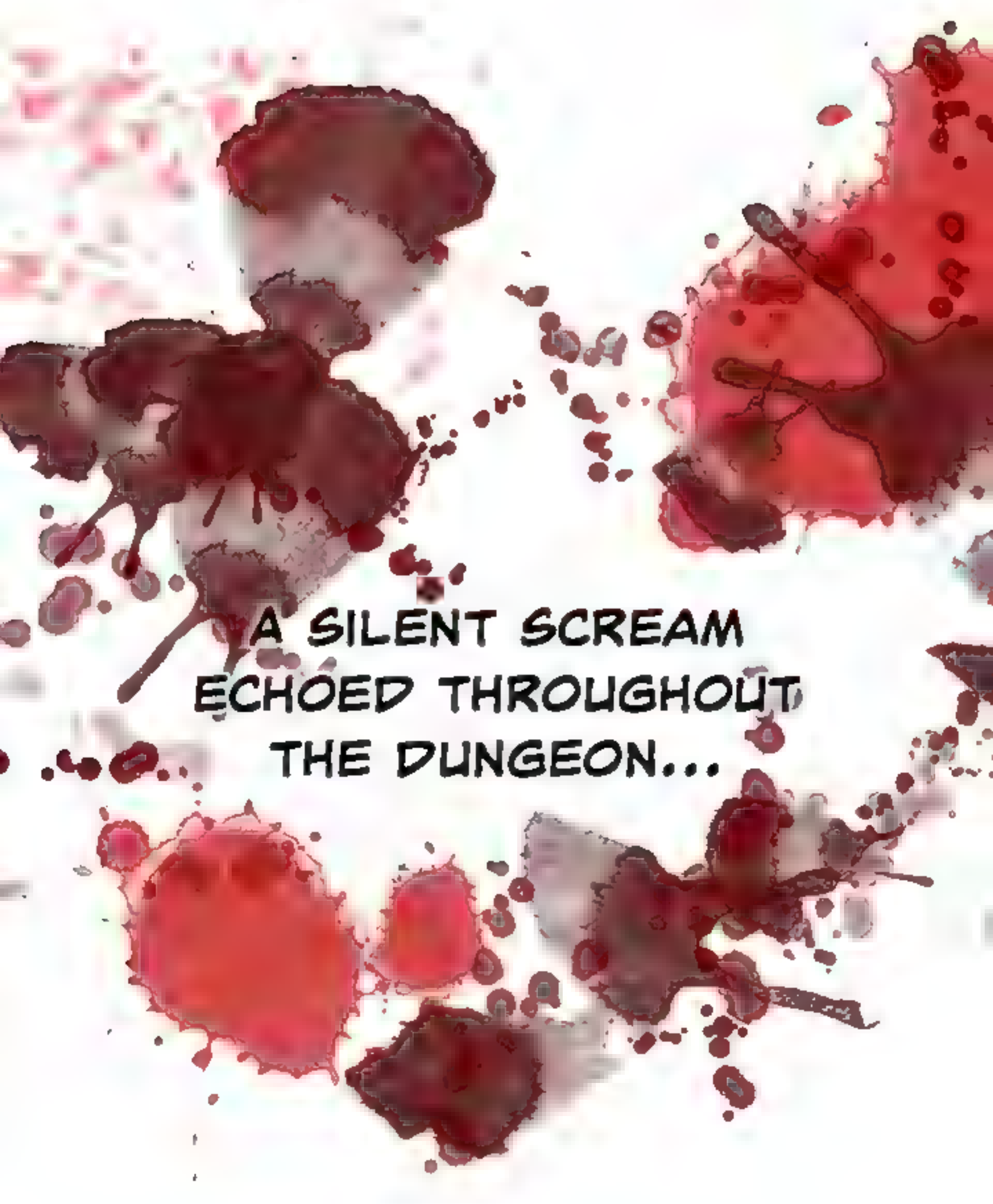
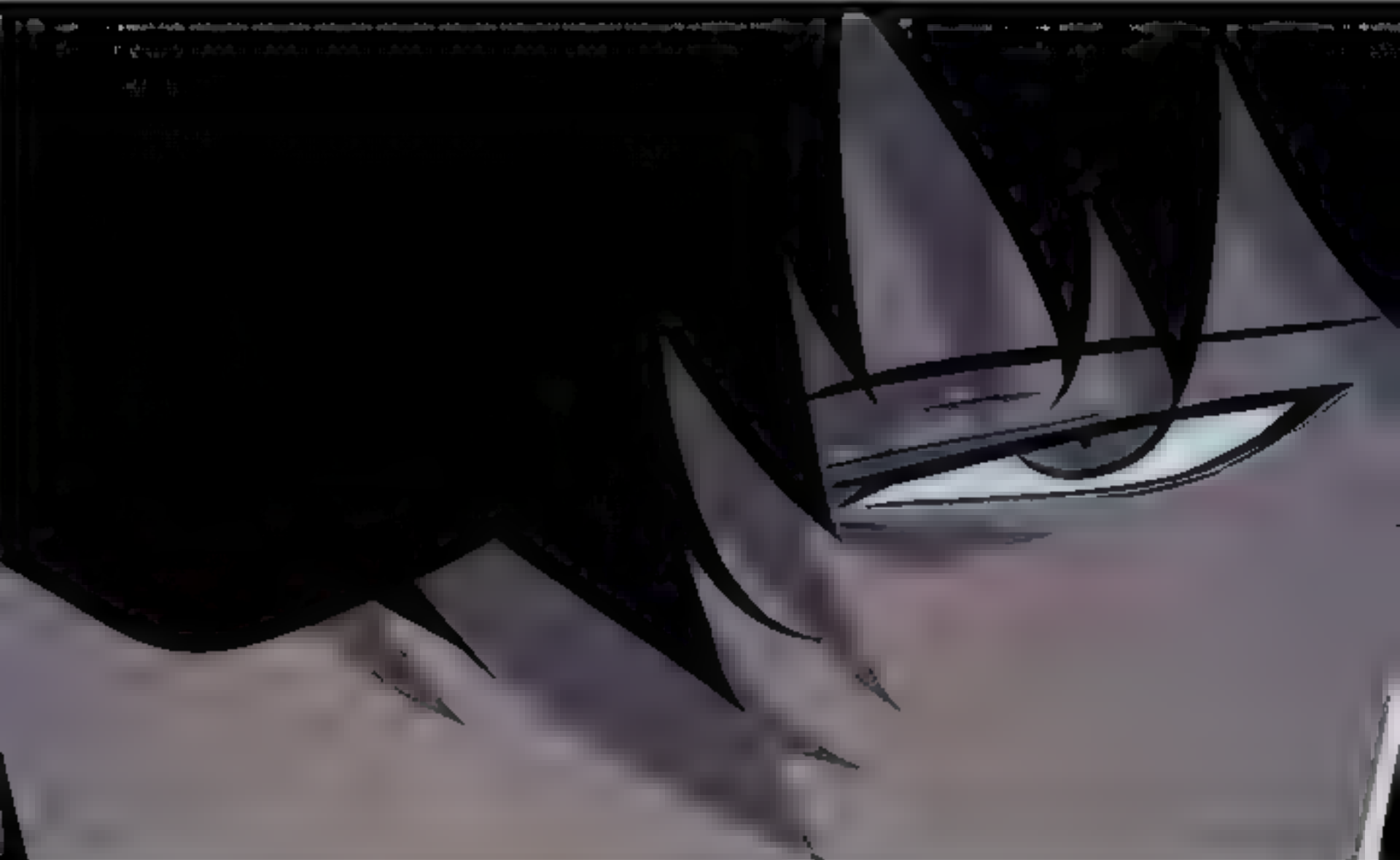
**THERE'S NO  
WAY I WOULD LET  
YOU LEAVE THIS  
DUNGEON.**

**TREMBLE**

**TREMBLE**







A SILENT SCREAM  
ECHOED THROUGHOUT  
THE DUNGEON...



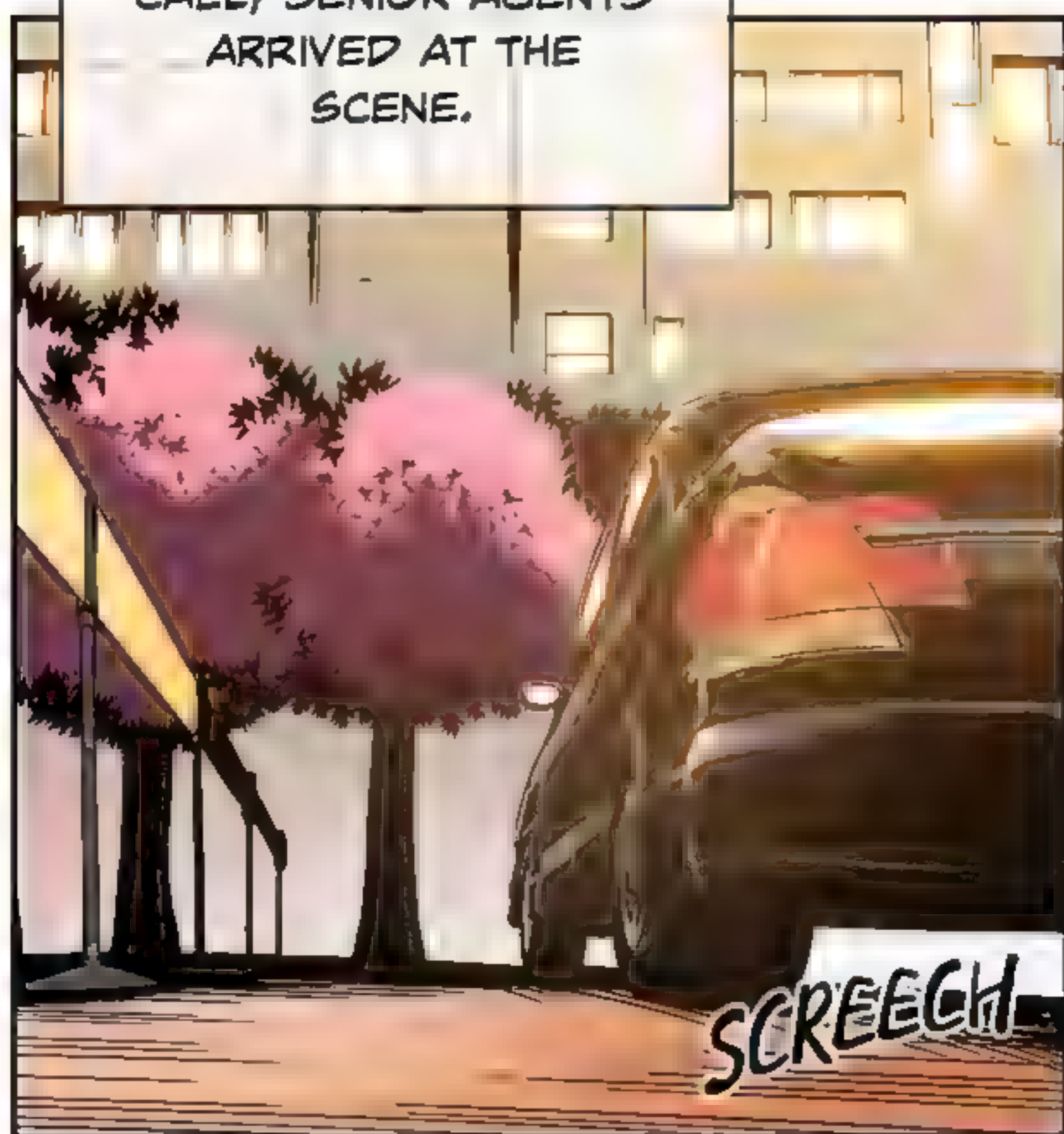
AFTER THAT, DEFEATING  
THE HOBGOBLIN BOSS  
WASN'T MUCH OF A  
CHALLENGE.

MR. SONG AND JOOHEE  
LEFT THE DUNGEON FIRST  
TO TELL THE SURVEILLANCE  
AGENT ABOUT WHAT  
HAD HAPPENED.



WHEN SHE REALIZED  
THAT THERE HAD BEEN  
A MAJOR ACCIDENT, SHE  
IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED  
THE HIGHER-UPS.

SOON  
AFTER RECEIVING HER  
CALL, SENIOR AGENTS  
ARRIVED AT THE  
SCENE.



HOW LONG HAS  
IT BEEN SINCE THE  
DUNGEON WAS  
CLEARED?

ABOUT  
40 MINUTES, SIR.

THAT  
MEANS THERE'S  
ONLY 20 MINUTES  
LEFT. SEEMS WE  
GOT HERE TOO  
LATE.

WE'LL ATTEMPT TO  
RETRIEVE THE BODIES  
WITHIN EIGHT MINUTES.  
IF WE FAIL, WE'LL HAVE  
TO GIVE UP AND LEAVE  
THE DUNGEON.





HUNTER  
SUNG JINWOO?




IS HE THE SAME  
PERSON I MET  
BEFORE?

HE'S CHANGED  
SO MUCH.



MR. SUNG, WE  
MEET AGAIN.


AH, YOU'RE THAT  
SURVEILLANCE  
AGENT...



YES, MY NAME  
IS WOO JINCHUL. I'M  
THE MANAGER OF THE  
SURVEILLANCE  
TEAM.


IT LOOKS LIKE  
ONE OF OUR AGENTS  
CAUSED A MAJOR  
PROBLEM.

WE'LL  
ISSUE AN OFFICIAL  
APOLOGY ONCE WE'VE  
GATHERED ALL THE FACTS.  
A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION  
WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE  
INVESTIGATION TEAM, NOT  
THE SURVEILLANCE  
TEAM.



THIS IS NO TIME TO  
FEEL PROUD OF MYSELF  
FOR DEFEATING KANG  
TAESHIK, A B-RANK  
HUNTER.

I DIDN'T  
REALIZE THIS  
BEFORE,  
BUT...



...THIS GUY  
IS STRONG.

AS A SURVEILLANCE  
AGENT, I CAME DOWN  
HERE TO ASK YOU ALL

A FEW QUESTIONS  
ABOUT WHAT  
HAPPENED.

HE'S IN  
A LEAGUE OF  
HIS OWN!


THIS GUY IS  
A-RANK!

AT MY CURRENT  
LEVEL, I WOULDN'T  
STAND A CHANCE  
AGAINST HIM.


WOULD THAT BE OKAY?  
WITH YOUR COOPERATION,  
WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET TO  
THE BOTTOM OF THIS  
MATTER QUICKLY.

YES, WE'LL  
COOPERATE.

***THEN LET ME BE  
STRAIGHTFORWARD.***



WHO KILLED  
THE B-RANK HUNTER,  
KANG TAESHIK?



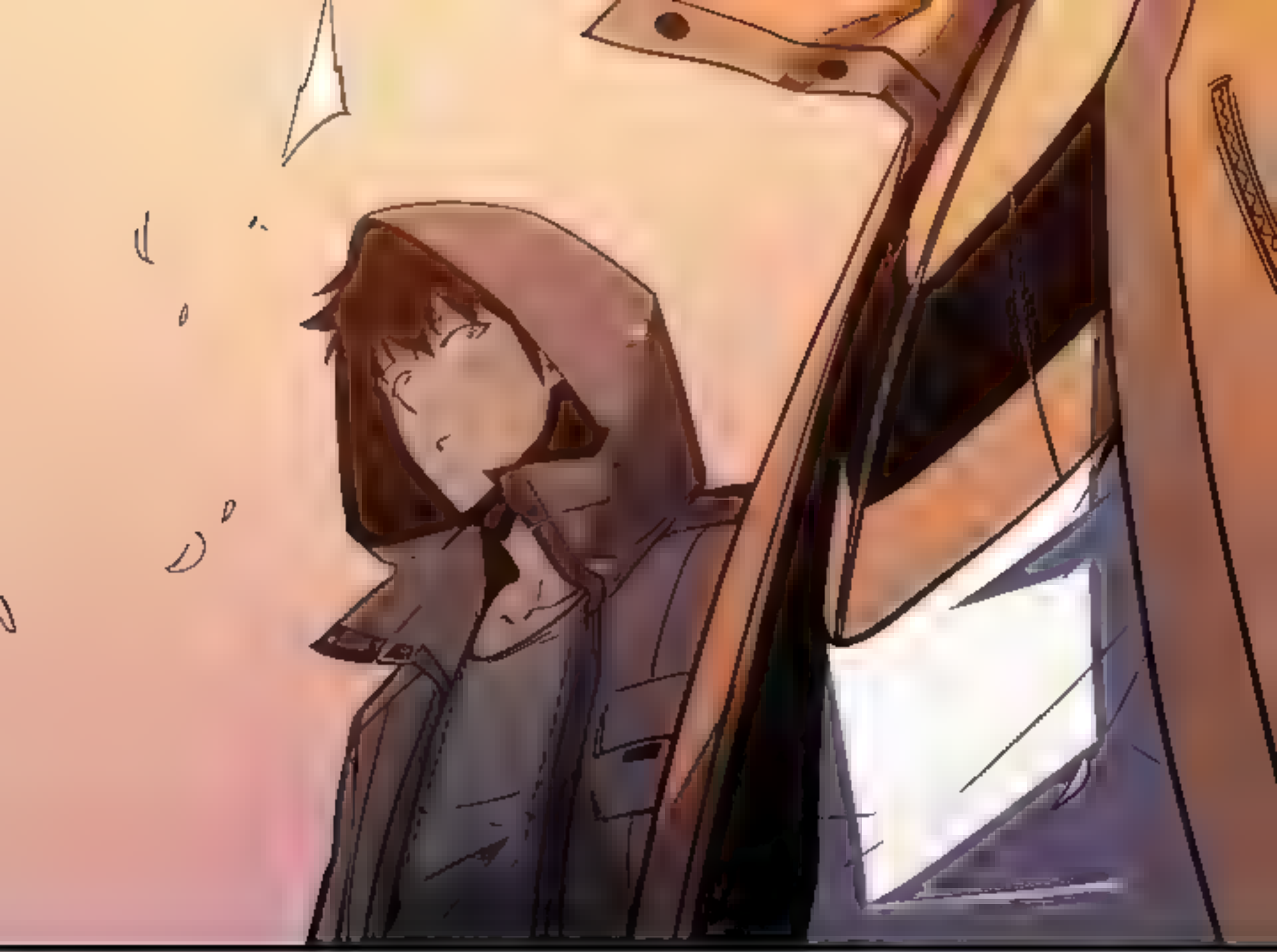
I CAN'T HIDE  
THE FACT THAT I'VE  
REAWAKENED ANY  
LONGER.


IT'S A SHAME,  
BUT LOOKS LIKE I'LL  
HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT  
THE DEAL I MADE  
WITH JINHO...

...SINCE HE WANTS A  
SKILLED HUNTER WITH  
A LOW RANK.



**IT WAS ME.**





I SUPPOSE YOU  
COULD'VE BEATEN A  
B-RANK HUNTER IF YOU  
HAD SUPPORT.

HOWEVER, KANG  
TAESHIK... WAS AN  
ENIGMA TO ALL OF US  
ON THE SURVEILLANCE  
TEAM AS WELL.

COMPARED  
TO OTHER B-RANK  
HUNTERS, HIS SKILLS WERE  
EXCEPTIONAL. IS A C-RANK  
HUNTER WITH A MISSING ARM  
REALLY CAPABLE OF BEATING  
A GUY LIKE THAT?


ANYWAY,  
PLEASE COME WITH  
US. YOU'LL BE HELPING  
US WRITE UP A REPORT  
ON THIS CASE.



MR. SONG.



WHY  
DID YOU LIE?



SUNG, I TRUST  
THAT YOU HAVE  
YOUR REASONS FOR  
HIDING YOUR TRUE  
STRENGTH.


SHOULD I NOT  
HAVE LIED?

EITHER WAY, THE  
INVESTIGATION CAN'T  
BE AVOIDED.

THIS PROBABLY ISN'T  
ENOUGH TO REPAY YOU  
FOR SAVING MY LIFE,  
BUT IT'S THE LEAST  
I CAN DO.



MR. SUNG JINWOO.




I HIGHLY DOUBT AN E-RANKER LIKE YOU WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT A B-RANK HUNTER LIKE KANG TAESHIK...

...BECAUSE I DON'T THINK IT'S HELPFUL TO SUSPECT YOU AGAIN OF REAWAKENING.

HOWEVER, I'M JUST LETTING YOU KNOW...

SINCE YOU WON'T LAST LONG IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?



THE INCIDENT WHERE HWANG DONGSUK'S SQUAD WAS WIPE OUT.

THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THAT DUNGEON WERE YOU AND A D-RANK HUNTER.

BUT THE PROBLEM IS, HWANG DONGSUK'S YOUNGER BROTHER IS THE HUNTER, HWANG DONGSOO. CHANCES ARE, YOU TWO NOW HAVE A TARGET ON YOUR BACKS.

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT S-RANK HUNTER, HWANG DONGSOO?




YES.

I HAVE  
NO INTEREST IN  
WHAT ACTUALLY  
HAPPENED.

WHAT'S  
IMPORTANT IS THAT  
YOU, MR. SUNG, WERE  
ABLE TO MAKE IT OUT  
OF THERE ALIVE.

WE CANNOT  
ENFORCE THE  
LAW ON S-RANK  
HUNTERS.



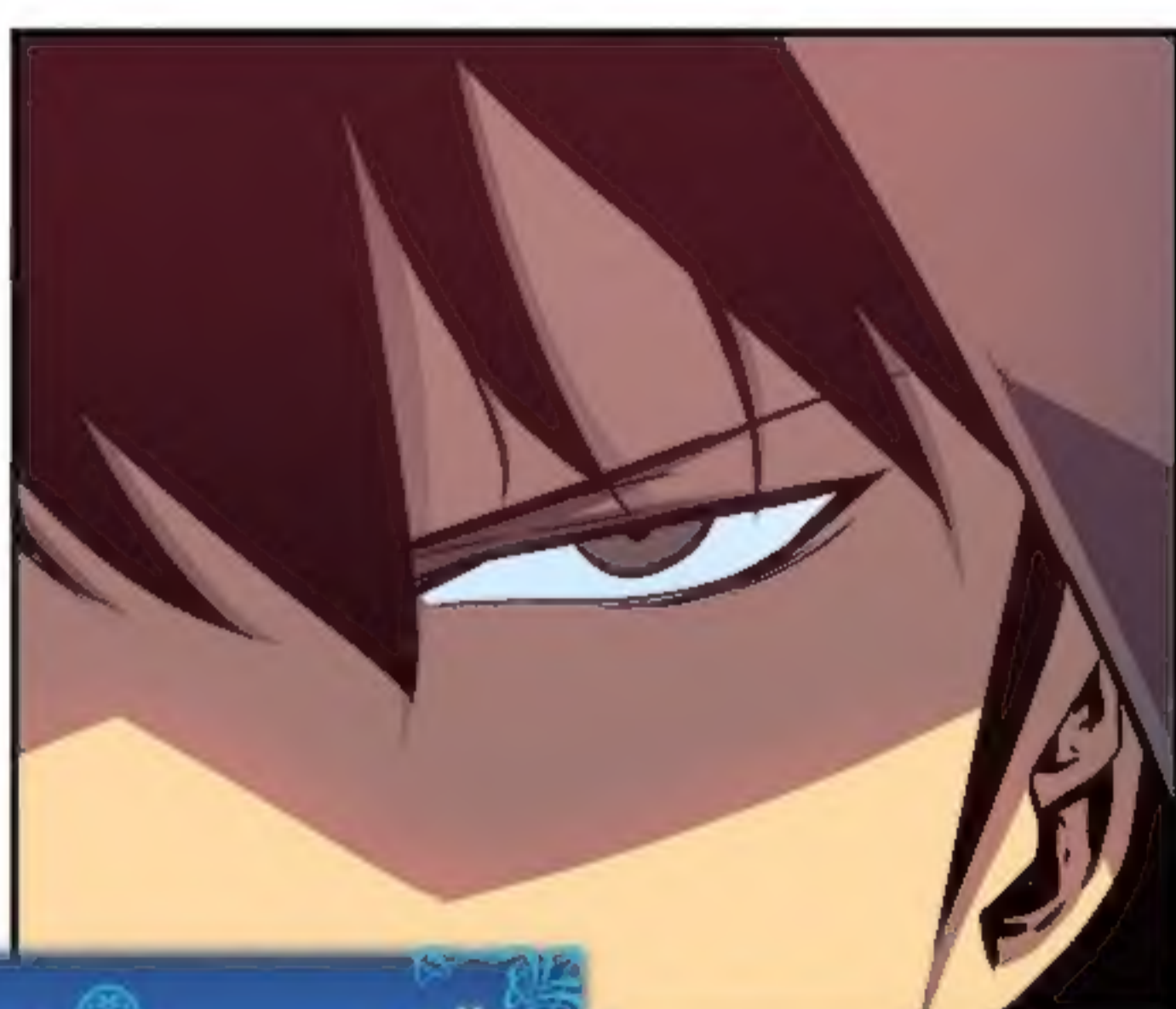
THEY ARE BOTH  
MIRACULOUS AND  
CATASTROPHIC  
BEINGS.

I SUGGEST  
YOU LAY LOW...

...BECAUSE  
A MONSTER  
FEARED BY OTHER  
MONSTERS MIGHT  
BE ON THE HUNT  
FOR YOU.



IF POSSIBLE,  
IT MIGHT EVEN BE  
A GOOD IDEA TO LEAVE  
THIS COUNTRY ALONG  
WITH YOUR LOVED  
ONES.



#### STATS

NAME: SUNG JINWOO    LEVEL: 27  
JOB: NONE    FATIGUE: 0  
TITLE: WOLF ASSASSIN

HP: 5114

MP: 548

STRENGTH: 72    HEALTH: 43  
AGILITY: 82    INTELLIGENCE: 39  
SENSE: 69

PHYSICAL DAMAGE REDUCTION: 20%    ACTIVATED

AVAILABLE ABILITY POINTS: 5

SKILLS

[PASSIVE]

? (UNKNOWN) MAX

TENACITY LV. 1

[ACTIVE]

SPEED LV. 1

BLOODLUST LV. 1



[ITEM: WARDEN'S NECKLACE]

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: A

TYPE: NECKLACE

EQUIPPED

AGILITY +20, SENSE +20

THREE HOURS LATER,  
DURING THE INVESTIGATION  
INTO KANG TAESHIK'S  
MURDER-FOR-HIRE CASE...



...THE CEO OF GELMGANG  
INDUSTRIES TURNED  
HIMSELF IN AND OUR  
ACTIONS WERE DEEMED  
AS SELF-DEFENSE.

JINWOO.

GROAN



DO YOU  
REMEMBER  
THIS?



To Be Continued...

# Solo Leveling

**D&C**  
WEBTOON

**Translator:** JJoelle

**Editor:** Michelle Kim